

# THE GROUNDPLANE

## SBARA Field Day 2009 !!



### SBARA Field Day June 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

Field Day is an Amateur Radio emergency preparedness tradition that was started by the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) in 1934. SBARA (South Bay Amateur Radio Association), ARES & CERT will join hands this year for Field Day 2009 emergency practice at Fremont's Central Park. Newark ARES will be operating a VHF/UHF station under the call KI6EGL. Fremont ARES plans to put up the VHF/UHF SSB station and operate it under the SBARA KU6S call. CERT has planned their annual picnic to coincide with Field Day 2009. They will be bringing a Fremont Fire Department ladder engine and have an additional 2M operation with the antenna on the engine's extended ladder. The Fire Department generously invited SBARA members to the CERT lunch on Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup> at noon.

*We will be located again this year in Central Park near the intersection of Paseo Padre Pkwy and Sailway Drive.*

SBARA will have three stations operating at the same time during part of the weekend. In addition, SBARA will be running higher power this year in hopes that the HF SSB operators will find it easier going in the crowded SSB bands. In addition, there will be a GOTA (Get On The Air) station on for all the ARES and CERT member's exclusive use to experience HF band operation. But wait, wait there's more! SBARA will have a RTTY (Radio Teletype) operation on HF for the ARES, CERT and SBARA members to operate and see how keyboard-to-keyboard digital communications works, by making contacts all over the United States.

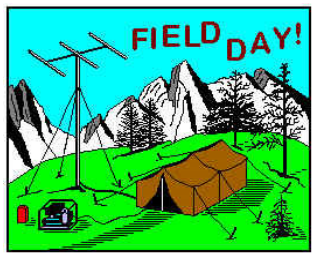
As is our tradition, setup will be on the Friday before Field Day, starting at 10:00AM. Every member is asked to participate in the setup since this is a key part of the emergency practice. Field Day operating will begin at 11:00AM on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup>, continue for 24 hours and ending at 11:00AM on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup>. Members and guests are encouraged to sit at an operating position and learn how to log a contact and then try to make one contact to round out their emergency training experience.

SBARA has permission to camp overnight and this has become a fun part of the weekend. ARES and CERT members are invited to bring your tent and stake out a spot to join in the camping experience. Fremont Park Department will be leaving the restrooms open all night for our convenience.

Don't forget the dinner on Saturday. We take a break from operating the radios at 5:00PM for a group potluck meal. This year the planning committee is again asking if your last name starts with A through M, please bring a salad to feed 6 to 8 adults. If it starts with the letter N through Z, please bring a side dish, again, that feeds 6 to 8 people to share with the group. SBARA will provide the Main Course, dessert, drinks and all cups, plates and flatware. So, get that family special recipe out and surprise everyone with your family's culinary treat.

Sunday at 10:00AM we will start taking down the stations. At this point of the weekend extra hands are always welcome. Mark your calendars to tune-up your emergency skills

Mark your calendars to tune-up your emergency skills at Field Day 2009 and join the fun.



- Special Points of Interest...**
- Field Day Information
  - Contests Galore
  - Festival Sign-Up Now Open
  - PC to Radio Simplified
  - Solar Cycle 24 Revised
  - HT To Work Day

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# THE GROUNDPLANE

## SBARA Committed to Hayward Festival

### Zucchini Festival Sign Up Webpage Form now available – Give it a try.

Zucchini Festival Sign Up webpage is now available for your use. This year's festival is Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup>. The webpage form is up and running to make it convenient for you to select your shifts. Remember, for each shift you sign up for and work, you will become eligible for the 'workers' drawing. This year's prize will be either a \$250 dual band mobile or a top of the line GPS for your automobile. To be eligible your name must be on the sign up sheet so be sure to use this page to reserve your preferred shift(s). To sign up go to:

[www.sbara.org/](http://www.sbara.org/)

From the menu on the left side of the home page select Hayward Zucchini Festival from the 'SBARA Calendar' section.

When the Zucchini page opens, look for the link to the sign up sheet just above the Map on the left hand side:

Don't wait... SIGN-UP ONLINE NOW! Click on this link.

Read the instructions. After selecting your shift(s) and filling in your contact information, click on the 'submit request' button

below your contact information.

If you were not on last years' database the sign up sheet administrator will receive an e-mail requesting that they approve you. This is to prevent 'spam' from people just filling in shifts with no intent of working them.

If you worked the festival last year or once approved by the administrator, you will receive an e-mail asking you to reply using the link provided confirming that you do want the selected shifts. If you do not reply within 24 hours your selection will automatically be removed and you will have to start over again. So don't forget to confirm your shift(s).

Thanks again for your support of this important and fun event. If you have any questions or need assistance contact the administrator, Al Rendon, at [wt6k@arri.net](mailto:wt6k@arri.net).

2009 Zucchini Festival Planning Committee

### Upcoming Events:

6/13 - Ham Cram @ SF County Fair Bldg. for General and Tech 8:45AM - 3PM  
 6/13 - De Anza Flea Market 5AM - 12PM  
 6/18 - ARES General Meeting - Fremont City Hall 7PM



# THE GROUNDPLANE

## Take your HT to Work Day

Last year we started something good when we began "Take Your HT to Work Day." In those locations that tried it, many new people were introduced to Amateur Radio. While we may never know how many may become hams themselves, it was fun to show and describe the Service to others. So, let's do it again!

On Tuesday, June 23rd, we encourage every ham radio operator across the country that owns one of the small, hand-held units called an "HT" to take their little radio to work. If they can. By wearing them on their belt, setting them on a desk, or just making them visible, the goal is to have co-workers ask, "What's that?" In this way the hams will be able to share about the fun they have with Amateur Radio.

During their lunch hour, the hams are encouraged not only to show the capabilities of the little HT's, but to also invite co-workers to actually try them under the hams' supervision. Amateur Radio allows for non-hams to work the radios under a licensed ham's control. This is a great way to begin and also invite your friends and co-workers to come and see a full station in field operation the next weekend during "Field Day 2005" on June 24-25.

Although the main use of Amateur Radio is fun, it is called a radio "Service" because it also has a very serious face. The FCC created this Service to fill the need for a pool of experts who could provide

backup emergency communications. In addition, the FCC acknowledged the ability of the hobby to advance the communication and technical skills of radio, and to enhance international goodwill. This philosophy has paid off. Countless lives have been saved where skilled hobbyists act as emergency communicators to render aid, whether it's during a tsunami in India or a hurricane right here in the US.

There will also be surprise messages coming from the ARRL itself. By using modern digital radio technology, Echolink and a few other tricks, random participants from locations around the country between noon and 1 p.m. in their local time might just learn they have been spotted on the air by W1AW and notified of a prize.

For more information about Amateur Radio, or how you can earn your own Amateur Radio license, please go to [hello-radio.org](http://hello-radio.org).

This is a chance to have a lot of fun, recruit new hams, invite people to Field Day, get publicity, and show off Amateur Radio. Many people would like to have the capabilities of ham radio in a crisis but don't know where to start. The best recruiter is another ham who can show and explain how to get the Technician license, then link them to the right people in your area. I hope you have fun and make the most of it!



# THE GROUNDPLANE

## Cram Class — Ham Licensing

The next ham self study course is at Redwood Shores on the peninsula on June 20, 2009. Contact Ross at the number listed in the flyer to reserve a place. The next Fremont session is October 17th. Please distribute this to new CERT's or others interested in ham radio.

Jeffrey Koger, WO6U  
(510) 693-6736  
WO6U@ARRL.NET

## Invitation to Participate

Two ham radio events benefiting the local community are advertised below, from Al (WT6K) of SBARA. Everyone is invited to come to Field Day at Lake Elizabeth June 27 & 28), see the attached Word document. Also SBARA is holding its annual fundraiser whose funds are used to support the local ham community including financial support for the 147.015 repeater. Radios used at the Zucchini Festival are business band radios, no ham license is required. I encourage everyone to visit Field Day or volunteer a few hours of your time to provide communications support at the Hayward Zucchini festival (Aug 15 & 16).

Jeffrey Koger, WO6U  
(510) 693-6736  
WO6U@ARRL.NET

**Remember Dad on His Day ....  
Fathers Day 2009!!**



# THE GROUNDPLANE

## PC — Radio Interface Simplified

*This article was prompted by the repeated question "Which is the right interface for me?" and it variants everywhere I turn. I would like to thank everyone that did...!*

PC interfaces in general are being simplified to the point that we no longer have to think or know too much about them. Almost every intricate detail has been taken care of and hidden away. However, ham radio manufacturers have been slow in jumping on the band wagon. Interfaces for radio control and operation from the PC have just recently begun and to make matters worse, the radio-manufacturers have a lot of catching up to do.

This has proven to be a boon of sorts. It has provided the opportunity for accessory manufacturers to jump in to try to fill the gap. As usual, each manufacturer is promoting their brand of interfaces with a new twist. This should be good news to most of us hams but in fact is otherwise, the choices are bewildering. So, let's pull back the covers and take a close look behind the scenes of a typical PC to Radio interface.

### The Radio

We need not spend any ink to talk about the radios. However please pay attention to the "extra" connectors that have started to appear on the rear panel of the newer radios. Many years back, we were all pretty happy to be able to work SSB with a microphone and CW with a key, leaving RTTY and anything else to the select few who had access to exotic (mechanical) equipment. However advances in digital technology and the brave attempts of a few expert hams have changed all that. Now, the vast majority of hams that have

access to a personal computer (PC) can now operate a large number of modes (including SSTV), rather than just SSB and CW.

The legacy connections on the radio are "Mic", "Speaker", "PTT" and "Key". So, several early interface units have emerged to take advantage of these connections, however, sometimes causing inconveniences for conventional operation. For example, one would have to change cable connections to switch back to conventional operation and vice versa.

However, newer radios are now sporting connections like "Modulator Input", "Demodulator Output", "Squelch" and "FSK" that allow both conventional operations as well as interfaces to the PC by the click of the mouse. The newest entrant to the connector scene is the CAT (Computer Aided Telemetry), i.e., remote monitoring & control of the radio by the PC. What they will think of next is anyone's guess, but I think these will continue for a long time.

### Oops !?

While we rejoiced at the introduction of the new connections, we did not pay too much attention to the details, did we? **Problem 1:** the signal levels at these connections were quite different from those at the PC. **Problem 2:** ground loops caused by differences in voltages in the "signal" ground caused unexpected results in audio transmitted and/or received. **Problem 3:** "RF in the shack" all but wiped out the sensitive inputs on the PC. Oops!!!



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## PC — Radio Interface Simplified (cont'd.)

Well, all was not in vain; it just meant another trip to the drawing board. That is what most of the accessory manufacturers did, and started using "isolated" circuits in the interfaces. Luckily, the solutions were much more simpler than feared. Audio circuits were isolated by cheap transformers, and digital input like PTT, FSK and CAT were isolated by cheap photo-transistors. We'll just as were preparing to get back in the saddle, the horse seems to have slipped away. Right before our eyes, the PC laptops overtook the desktop tower PCs both in convenience and portability. However little could we do about the disappearing serial ports. Oops again! But not to worry, a new wave of devices called USB to serial adapters flooded the market (at least the shelf at Fry's).

### So, do we have a solution?

OK, looks like all our problems have been resolved, but look, in the wake of all this we left behind a trail of "interfaces" of varying vintages. So, the question being asked over and over these days is "Which is the right interface for me?"

Luckily, the answer is not as complicated as the question. Simply remember the following key points and I am sure you will be headed in the right direction –

1. Audio in/out from the Radio connects to audio out/in to the PC. Isolation with audio transformers in both circuits should be preferred.
2. The PC should have at least one serial port either by itself or by an USB to serial interface
3. The RTS line of the PC serial port is normally used to activate the PTT and should preferably be isolated by opto-isolators.

4. The DTR line of the PC serial port is normally used to key the CW line and should preferably be isolated by opto-isolators.

5. The TxD and RxD lines of the PC serial ports are used to perform CAT functions, and these lines should also preferably be isolated by opto-isolators.

A second serial port is required to interface to the FSK line, if so desired.

There you have it, so when you go shopping or roll your own, you should be able to make the right choice. Most interface manufacturers, provide cables or adapters for your specific brand of radio, I bought two separate cable adapters, one for each radio.

### Please Note

Also, know that not all radios support all modes, so understand your radio well, a good look at the description of the rear panel connections and operating modes in the manual should give a good idea.

Here is another important point, when deciding your interface, DO NOT think about the which software you will need. Almost all software made for hams use the same conventions indicated in (1) to (6) above, so will work any good interface you buy or build.

Thank you for reading this far, I have tried to keep it conversational, non-technical and easy to see behind the smoke and mirrors. Obviously, there will be variations to the common core theme, however, this should help you make an educated choice. Hope you will enjoy the new modes that will be at your finger tips, as much as I do.

73, Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG

# THE GROUNDPLANE

## Upcoming Operating Events — June

### Contest Name

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint

### DigiFest

VK Shires Contest

SEANET Contest

UKSMG Summer Contest

RSGB National Field Day

IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW

Alabama QSO Party

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW

NCCC Sprint Ladder

Digital Pentathlon

ANARTS WW RTTY Contest

Portugal Day Contest

VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest, Phone

Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB

GACW WWSA CW DX Contest

REF DDFM 6m Contest

### ARRL June VHF QSO Party

SKCC Weekend Sprint

SARL Youth Day Sprint

RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB

NCCC Sprint Ladder

Digital Pentathlon

All Asian DX Contest, CW

SMIRK Contest

### Feld Hell Sprint

AGCW VHF/UHF Contest

West Virginia QSO Party

### Kid's Day Contest

DIE Contest

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

SKCC Sprint

NCCC Sprint

Digital Pentathlon

His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB

Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest

Marconi Memorial HF Contest

ARCI Milliwatt Field Day

### SBARA & ARRL Field Day—Lake Elizabeth

SARL Digital Contest

### Date and Time of the Contest

0400Z-0429Z, 0430Z-0459Z, June 6 and

0500Z-0529Z, 0530Z-0600Z, June 6

0400Z-1200Z, June 6 and

2000Z, June 6 to 0400Z, June 7 and

1200Z-2000Z, June 7

0600Z, June 6 to 0600Z, June 7

1200Z, June 6 to 1200Z, June 7

1200Z, June 6 to 1200Z, June 7

1500Z, June 6 to 1500Z, June 7

1500Z, June 6 to 1459Z, June 7

1600Z, June 6 to 0400Z, June 7

0030Z-0230Z, June 10

1900Z-2030Z, June 10

0230Z-0300Z, June 12

1800Z-2200Z, June 12

0000Z, June 13 to 2400Z, June 14

0000Z-2400Z, June 13

0800Z-1400Z, June 13

1100Z-1300Z, June 13

1500Z, June 13 to 1500Z, June 14

1600Z, June 13 to 1600Z, June 14

1800Z, June 13 to 0300Z, June 15

0000Z-2400Z, June 14

0800Z-1000Z, June 16

1900Z-2030Z, June 18

0230Z-0300Z, June 19

1800Z-2200Z, June 19

0000Z, June 20 to 2400Z, June 21

0000Z, June 20 to 2400Z, June 21

1400Z-1800Z, June 20

1600Z-1900Z, June 20 (144) and

1900Z-2100Z, June 20 (432)

1600Z, June 20 to 0200Z, June 21

1800Z-2400Z, June 20

0600Z-1200Z, June 21

0100Z-0300Z, June 22

0000Z-0200Z, June 24

0230Z-0300Z, June 26

1800Z-2200Z, June 26

1200Z, June 27 to 1200Z, June 28

1200Z, June 27 to 1200Z, June 28

1400Z, June 27 to 1400Z, June 28

1800Z, June 27 to 2100Z, June 28

**1800Z, June 27 to 2100Z, June 28**

1300Z-1600Z, June 28



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(800) 854-6046  
Janet, KLTNF, Mgr.  
anaham@hamradio.com

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1525 W. Magnolia Blvd., #1505  
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(800) 854-6046  
Eric, KSEJC, Mgr.  
Magnolia bobson  
B. Victory & Buena Vista  
burban@hamradio.com

**OAKLAND, CA**  
2210 Livingston St., #4606  
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(800) 854-6046  
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.  
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp  
oakland@hamradio.com

**SAN DIEGO, CA**  
5375 Karmy Villa Rd., #2123  
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Tom, KXMK, Mgr.  
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa  
sanid@hamradio.com

**SUNNYVALE, CA**  
510 Lawrence Exp. #102, #4035  
(408) 736-9496  
(800) 854-6046  
Dan, K6DN, Mgr.  
So. from Hwy. 101  
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

**NEW CASTLE, DE**  
(Near Philadelphia)  
1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720  
(302) 322-7092  
(800) 644-4476  
Rick, K3TL, Mgr.  
RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295  
newcastle@hamradio.com

**PORTLAND, OR**  
11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.  
97228  
(503) 589-0555  
(800) 854-6046  
Leon, W7AD, Mgr.  
Tigard-90W exit  
from Hwy. 5 & 217  
portland@hamradio.com

**DENVER, CO**  
8400 E. 18th Ave., #, 80231  
(303) 745-7373  
(800) 444-9476  
John, N5EHP, Mgr.  
denver@hamradio.com

**PHOENIX, AZ**  
1930 W. Darnlip Ave., #5021  
(602) 242-3515  
(800) 444-9476  
Gary, N7GL, Mgr.  
1 mi. east of I-17  
phoenix@hamradio.com

**ATLANTA, GA**  
5071 Buford Hwy., 30340  
(770) 263-0700  
(800) 444-7927  
Mark, KJ4V D, Mgr.  
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285  
atlanta@hamradio.com

**WOODBRIDGE, VA**  
(Near Washington D.C.)  
14908 Bullitt America Dr. 22191  
(703) 543-1053  
(800) 444-4799  
Steve, W4BHG, Mgr.  
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1  
woodbridge@hamradio.com

**SALEM, NH**  
(Near Boston)  
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(603) 898-3750  
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# THE GROUNDPLANE

## New Predictions for Solar Cycle 24

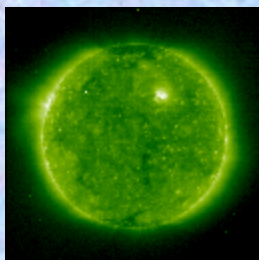
SB SPACE @ ARL \$ARLS004  
ARLS004 NASA Releases New Predictions  
for Solar Cycle 24

ZCZC AS04  
QST de W1AW  
Space Bulletin 004 ARLS004  
From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington, CT June 2, 2009  
To all radio amateurs

SB SPACE ARL ARLS004  
ARLS004 NASA Releases New Predictions  
for Solar Cycle 24

An international panel of experts -- led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and sponsored by NASA -- has released a new prediction for the next solar cycle: Solar Cycle 24 will peak in May 2013 with a below-average number of sunspots. "If our prediction is correct, Solar Cycle 24 will have a peak sunspot number of 90, the lowest of any cycle since 1928 when Solar Cycle 16 peaked at 78," said panel chairman Doug Biesecker of NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC). This report clarifies a NOAA report from earlier this month that stated that Solar Cycle 24 would bring "90 sunspots per day on average."

The latest forecast revises an earlier prediction issued in 2007. At that time, a sharply divided panel believed solar minimum would come in March 2008 followed by either a strong solar maximum in 2011, or a weak solar maximum in 2012. "It turns out that none of our models were totally correct," said Dean Pesnell of the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)



and NASA's lead representative on the panel. "The Sun is behaving in an unexpected and very interesting way."

In 2007, experts varied in their predictions on when the solar cycle would peak and how strong it would be. In April of that year, NOAA, in coordination with an international panel of solar experts, predicted that the next 11-year cycle of solar storms "would start in March 2008, plus or minus six months, and peak in late 2011 or mid-2012." In the cycle forecast issued in April 2007, half of the panel predicted a "moderately strong cycle of 140 sunspots, plus or minus 20, expected to peak in October 2011. The other half predicted a moderately weak cycle of 90 sunspots, plus or minus 10, peaking in August 2012. An average solar cycle ranges from 75 to 155 sunspots. The late decline of Cycle 23 has helped shift the panel away from its earlier leaning toward a strong Cycle 24. The group is evenly split between a strong and a weak cycle."

At a meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco in December 2007, David Hathaway of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, along with colleague Robert Wilson, said that Solar Cycle 24 "looks like it's going to be one of the most intense cycles since record-keeping began almost 400 years ago." They said they believe the next solar maximum should peak around 2010 with a sunspot number of 160, plus or minus 25. "This would make it one of the strongest solar cycles of the past 50 years -- which is to say, one of the strongest in recorded history."



# THE GROUNDPLANE

## New Predictions for Solar Cycle 24 (cont'd.)

Four of the five biggest cycles on record have come in the past 50 years. "Cycle 24 should fit right into that pattern," Hathaway said.

Right now -- June 2009 -- the solar cycle is in a valley, the deepest of the past century. In 2008 and 2009, the Sun showed some of the lowest sunspot counts on record, as well as weak solar winds and a low solar irradiance, going more than two years without a significant solar flare. "In our professional careers, we've never seen anything quite like it," Pesnell said. "Solar minimum has lasted far beyond the date we predicted in 2007."

In recent months, however, Pesnell said that the Sun has begun to show some small signs of life: Small sunspots and "proto-sunspots" are popping up with increasing frequency. Enormous currents of plasma on the Sun's surface are gaining strength and slowly drifting toward its equator. Radio astronomers have detected a tiny but significant uptick in solar radio emissions. All these things are precursors of an awakening Solar Cycle 24 and form the basis for the panel's new, almost unanimous forecast.

Pesnell cautioned optimism, telling the ARRL that there is an "error bar of  $\pm 20$ ." This means Solar Cycle 24's sunspot number could be as high as 110, or as low as 70. "Based upon my own personal research, I don't think we'll see 90 [sunspots in Solar Cycle 24]," he said.

When asked if such a low number foretold the beginnings of a Maunder Minimum, Pesnell said that a Maunder Minimum takes several cycles to appear: "Sunspots [in solar cycles] leading up to the Maunder Minimum took several cycles to disappear. I really can't predict what will happen in Solar Cycle 25. What we're seeing now is something that looks like a sunspot, but it looks as if someone has come along and 'stomped' on it, creating a multitude of little things. We don't have a name for this and we've never seen anything like it before."

There could be more surprises, panelists acknowledge -- and more revisions to the forecast. "Go ahead and mark your calendar for May 2013," Pesnell said. "But use a pencil."



## SOLAR CYCLE 24.COM

by Amateur Radio Station VE3EN





# THE GROUNDPLANE

## South Bay Amateur Radio Association

Founded 1974

Mailing Address  
Box 8401

Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401

Web Site — [www.sbara.org](http://www.sbara.org)

### President

Open Position

### Vice President

Brad Douglas, KB8UYR

### Treasurer

Don Amyx, N6DA

### Secretary

Open Position

### Newsletter Editor

Bill Artelt, WB9YVM

### Webmaster

Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG

### Quartermaster

Open Position

### Program Facilitator

## Fremont Repeaters & Net Information

WA6PWW - 147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5

WA6PWW - 223.900 -500Khz, PL 107.2

WA6PWW - 442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2

K6AIR - 146.940 -600Khz, PL 123.0

K6AIR - 441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0

ARES - Tuesday @ 7:30pm -

147.015 + PL 103.5

**Remember, sign-up for the Potluck Dish you are providing for Field Day Dinner!!!!**



## SBARA Meeting Location

Our meeting location is at Hurricane Electric.

The address in Fremont is:

760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.

Bring your HF transceiver, antenna) or HT !

Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600

The **South Bay Amateur Radio Association** is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. The club has been in existence since 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, a California not-for-profit tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes. We sponsor training for

new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

SBARA meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fremont, Cali-

fornia. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. After conducting business, coffee and snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. We hope to see you there!

# Fremont Communications Group

Fremont Amateur Radio Emergency Services

Fremont CERT Communications Group

[WWW.FREMONTARES.ORG](http://WWW.FREMONTARES.ORG)

May 15, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 2

Emergency  
Frequencies

Check-in for Fremont,  
Newark & Union City  
(Resource):  
**147.015 + PL 103.5**

Fremont Tactical  
repeater  
**146.940 – PL 123.0**

Fremont Command Net  
**441.125+PL100.0**

Tactical SIMPLEX  
frequency for Newark  
**144.365 primary**  
**146.555 secondary**

Tactical repeater for  
Union City  
**146.610 – PL 123.0**

Websites:

Fremont  
Communications Group  
[WWW.FREMONTARES.ORG](http://WWW.FREMONTARES.ORG)

CERT Website  
[WWW.FREMONT.GOV/FIRE/EDUCATION/CERTTRAINING.HTM](http://WWW.FREMONT.GOV/FIRE/EDUCATION/CERTTRAINING.HTM)

SBARA Website  
[WWW.SBARA.ORG](http://WWW.SBARA.ORG)

BAY AREA  
EDUCATIONAL  
AMATEUR RADIO  
SOCIETY  
[WWW.BAEARS.COM](http://WWW.BAEARS.COM)

## What would you do after an Earthquake?

Too often we are reminded we live in earthquake country but since 1989 we haven't been reminded and have become complacent about preparing for this event. Everyone knows it's not IF it will happen but WHEN, but still we procrastinate. Even if the populace is prepared, things will happen that require attention from the professional emergency organizations. Your cell

phones don't work, the landlines may or may not be in service. You're a ham, why not use the most reliable communication equipment still around; radio. Who do you call? What frequency do you use?

Familiarize yourself with ARES procedures in the event you need to avail yourself of them. Better yet, help your neighbors and get involved at whatever level you are

comfortable with. Training is available through the City for personal disaster preparedness, and an organization is in place to help you: Fremont ARES, working in conjunction with Fremont Fire Department and the Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) to serve you and your neighbors.

Contact us at  
[www.fremontares.org](http://www.fremontares.org) to learn more information.

## ARRL FIELD DAY 2009

Every year the ARRL sponsors a 24 hour emergency training session on the last Saturday/Sunday of June. This year SBARA will hold Fremont Field Day at Lake Elizabeth from 11:00AM June 27<sup>th</sup> till 11AM June 28<sup>th</sup>. The event site is south of the intersection of Sailway Drive and Paseo Padre Parkway adjacent in Central Park.

Come visit and view seasoned hams work VHF and HF voice and code messaging.

Licensing Opportunities:

Jeff Koger  
Fremont ARES  
[wo6u@arrl.net](mailto:wo6u@arrl.net),  
(510) 693-6736

Ross Peterson – BAEARS  
[Wb6zbu@arrl.net](mailto:Wb6zbu@arrl.net)  
[WWW.BAEARS.COM](http://WWW.BAEARS.COM)

Al Rendon  
SBARA  
[WT6K@arrl.net](mailto:WT6K@arrl.net)

(When cell phone sites are tied up, use SMS Text Messaging, those will have a better chance to be delivered).

**Fremont Fire  
Department  
Offered training**

**Personnel Emergency  
Preparedness (PEP)  
One day, three hours**

**Community Emergency  
Response Team (CERT)  
6 Sessions, three+  
hours (total 20 hours)**

**Call (510) 494-4244 or  
[FirePubEd@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:FirePubEd@ci.fremont.ca.us)**



A M A T E U R

R A D I O

## LICENSE TESTING

This session is produced by Bay Area Educational Amateur Radio Society - member W5YI VEC

### Study Session, Followed by Exam

Offering a one day study session for Technician or General theory, followed by testing.

WHEN: Saturday, June 20, 2009  
8:00am - 5pm

WHERE: Redwood Shores, CA

FEE: \$30.00

Questions: Ross Peterson [wb6zbu@arrl.net](mailto:wb6zbu@arrl.net) or 650-349-5349

Register: [baears.com](http://baears.com)

Can't make this class? We can  
notify you of the next date and  
location...contact us.

Class size is limited, reservations are required.

New Hams benefit from an active Ham's help in learning proper amateur operation.

RESERVE YOUR SPACE \* BE A HAM!

Sponsored by: Oracle (<http://www.oracle.com>)

San Mateo Office of Emergency Services ( <http://www.smcready.org/> )



# THE GROUNDPLANE



*Flag Day  
June 14th*

## Announcements

SBARA's monthly meeting is  
June 12th. Beginning at 7:30pm

Our meeting location is at Hurricane Electric. The address in Fremont is:

**760 Mission Court —**

**Come to the meeting and bring your**

**HT, HF, Rig and Antenna!!**

**Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600**

**Come and join us for dinner at**

The Ground Plane — KU6S  
<http://www.sbara.org>  
South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA  
P.O. Box 8401  
Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401